



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 700

Chairperson: Tom Baker
Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications
Date of Hearing: February 24, 2003

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

The primary purpose of LB 700 is to authorize the use of all-terrain vehicles (ATV's) on Nebraska highways, but ATV's would not be allowed on either freeways or the interstate.

In order for an ATV to be used on a highway, the ATV must first be titled, registered, and licensed. An exception is provided for ATV dealers or manufacturers.

LB 700 creates a class ATV license. This endorsement is available to anyone who has a class O operator's license, a provisional operator's license, a learner's permit, or a commercial driver's license. The ATV endorsement is not available to someone who has only a school permit, as it is felt these drivers are too young to independently operate an ATV on the highway. A class ATV license costs the same, and the fees are distributed in the same way, as a motorcycle license.

ATV drivers must obey all the rules of the road. Helmets are required, just the same as they are for motorcycle riders. Owners must demonstrate proof of financial responsibility. LB 700 requires motor vehicle taxes to be paid on ATV's used on the highway.

All-terrain vehicles are designed primarily for off-highway use. LB 700 anticipates that some modifications would need to be made to each ATV to make it road worthy. Some mechanical requirements for vehicles used on Nebraska highways are found in other areas of statute and would also apply to ATV's.

Nothing in LB 700 applies to any ATV used only off-road or for any use now permitted under §60-6,356.

Principal Introducer:

Senator David Landis